

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram of a satellite communication system. The system includes two satellites, 620 and 640, and three ground stations, 630. The satellites are in orbit above the Earth's surface, which is represented by a curved line 610. The ground stations are located on the Earth's surface. The diagram shows the communication links between the satellites and the ground stations. Satellite 620 is connected to ground stations 630 and 630. Satellite 640 is connected to ground stations 630 and 630. The ground stations are also connected to each other via a network of lines.

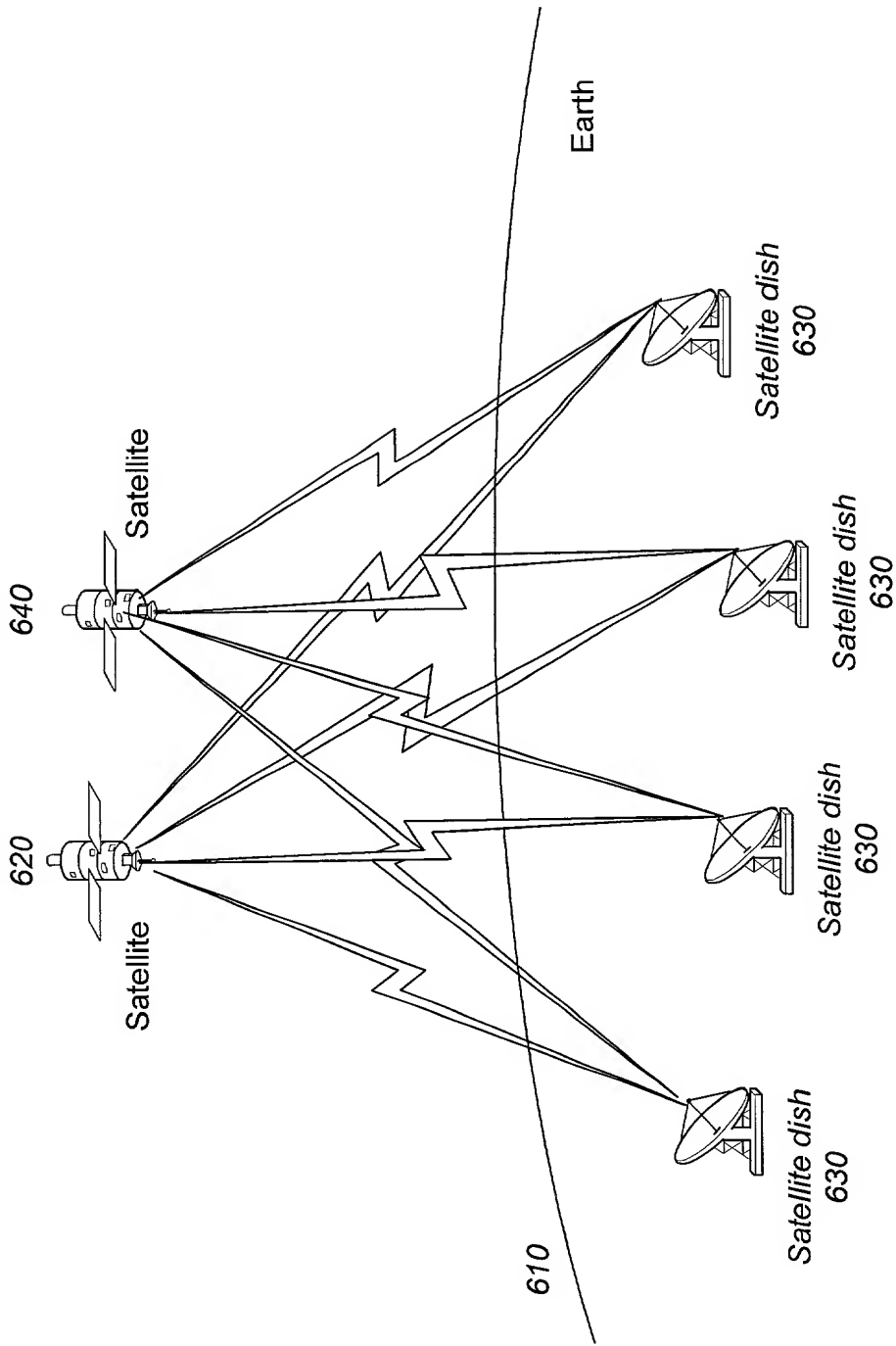


Figure 1
Prior Art

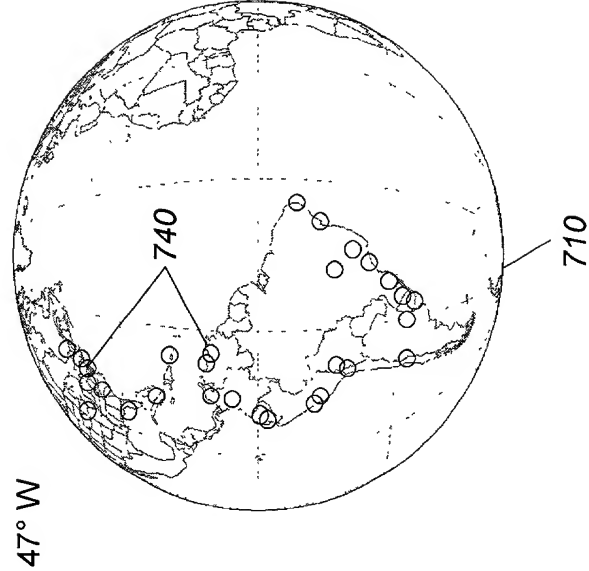


Figure 2
Prior Art

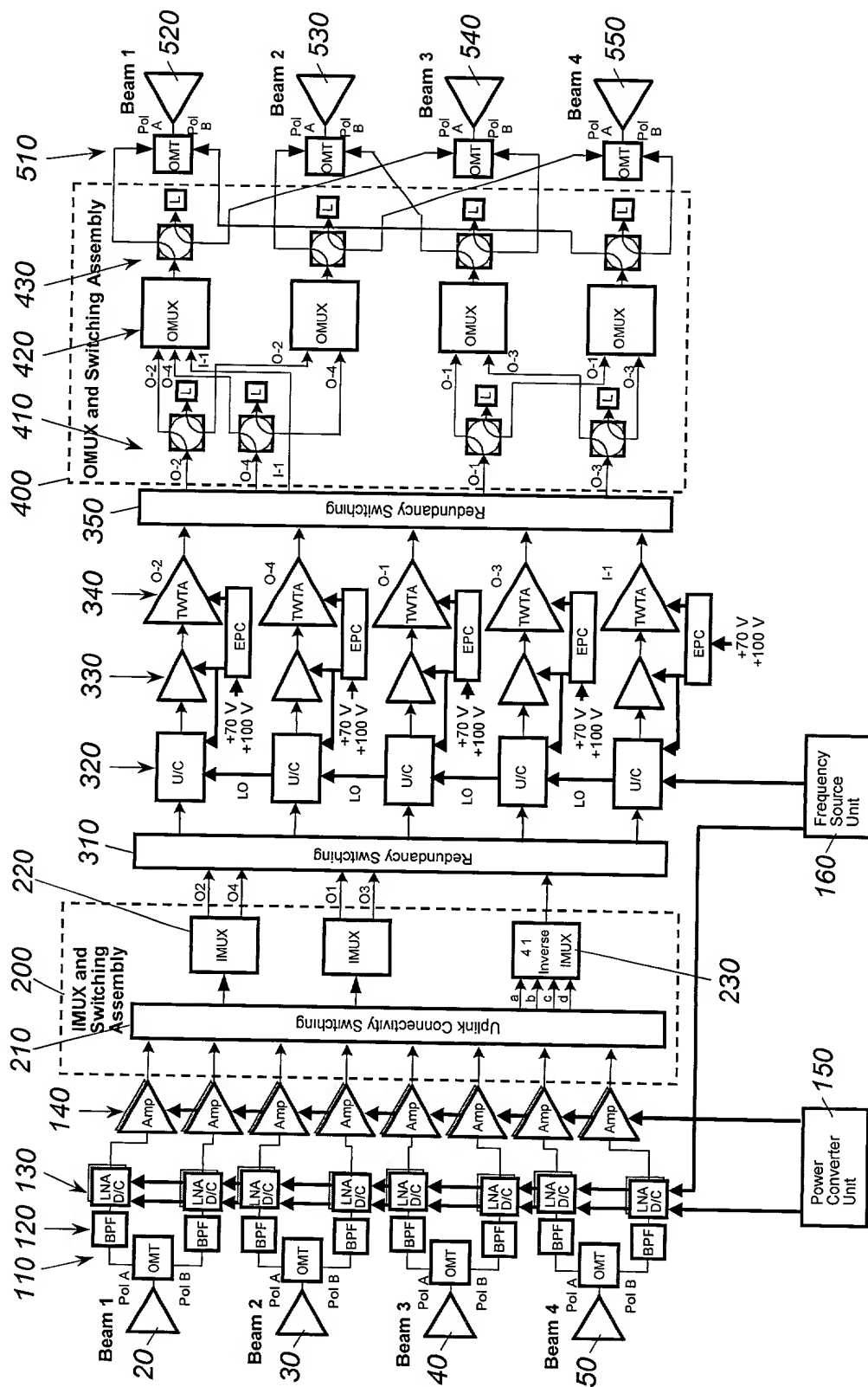


Figure 3

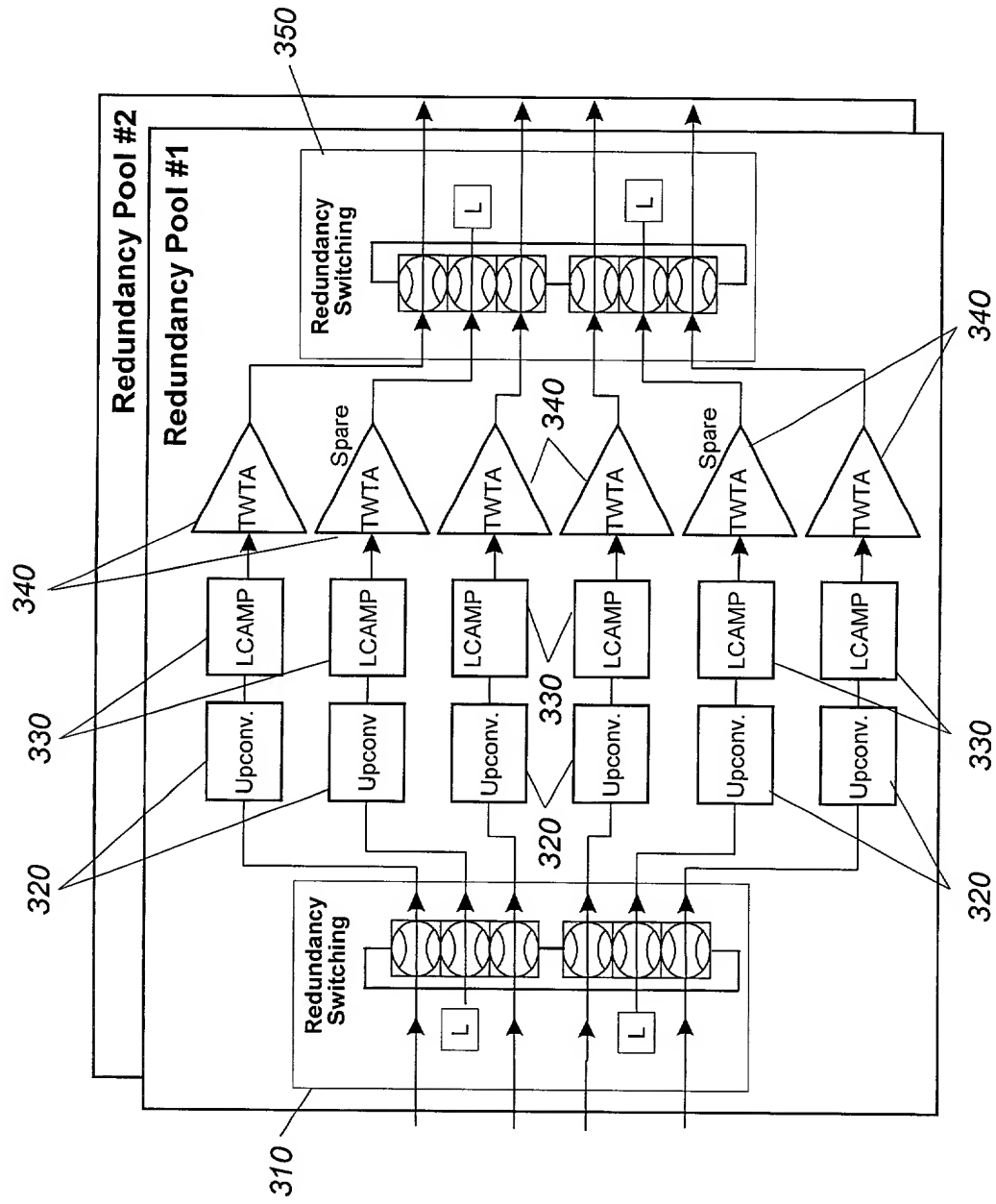


Figure 4

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram of a four-channel optical communication system. The system includes four input multiplexers (412, 414, 416, 418), four output multiplexers (422, 424, 426, 428), four beam splitters (432, 434, 436, 438), four optical modulators (OMT) (512, 514, 516, 518), and four beam detectors (Beam 1, Beam 2, Beam 3, Beam 4). The system is configured to receive four input signals (A, B, C, D) and output four signals (AB, A, B, 0). The input signals are combined at the input multiplexers and then split into four channels. Each channel is processed by a beam splitter, an OMT, and a beam detector. The output signals are then combined at the output multiplexers. The system is designed to handle four channels of data, each with its own unique signal path.

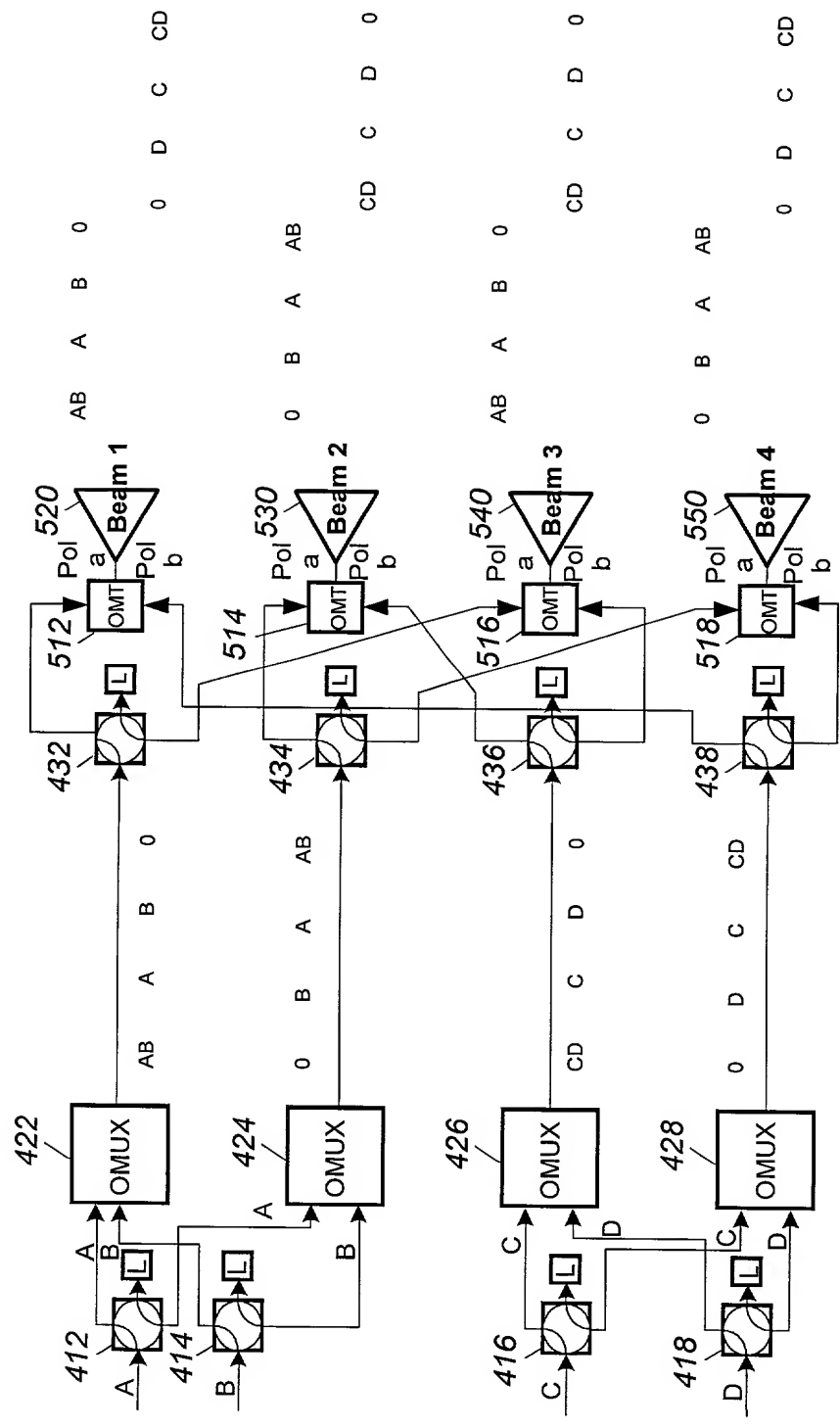


Figure 5

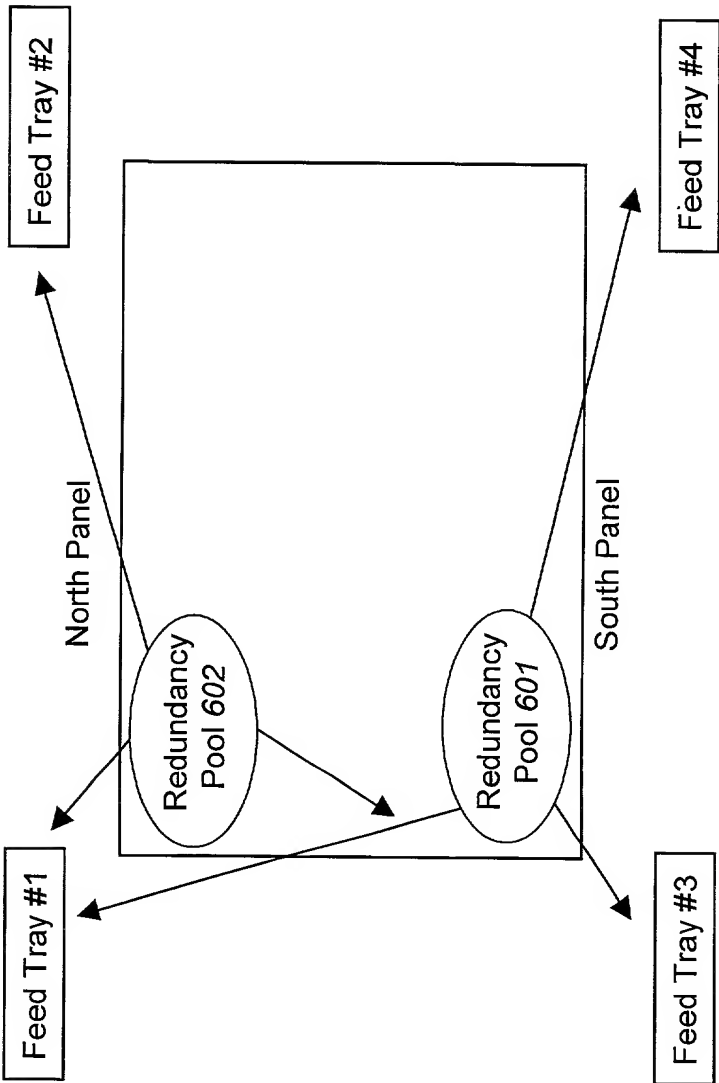


Figure 6